



RUGBY LEAGUE ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER

Struddy Cup Champions 2023!

Congratulations to our year 9 Rugby League Academy team claiming the Struddy Cup title in emphatic style. A golden point thriller!

What a season it was, winning 5 games during the regular season, including wins against Mountain Creek SHS, Morayfield SHS, Woodridge SHS, Redbank SHS and Caloundra SHS. The boys also recorded a 14 all draw against Forest Lake and finished with two losses to finish the season in 4th position.

This setup a tough road to the final, having to travel to Bellbird Park SHS. A team which we lost to during the regular season. However, the boys dug deep to win comfortably. Round 2 of the finals again had our boys travelling to St. Mary's Toowoomba. In a knock out game to make the final, we played until the final whistle, edging a win by 2 points!



Grand Final day had arrived and the year 9 boys were excited to take the field. The memory of losing this game last year was clearly evident in the players. The

first half was a tight battle with Mountain Creek going in to half time 6 – 0. However, after a half time chat from their coach Mr Neighbour the boys came out much calmer and more focused. They started strong in the second half dominating possession. Eventually Jack scored in the corner. Giving Kai a tough kick from the corner to level the game at 6 all.

The final hooter sounded and the game went into golden point. After a pretty daring kick off, Alex Hills ended up gaining possession. After a few good hit ups from the forward pack, Nathan kicked the drop goal right between the posts to claim the win!

Final score Alexandra Hills SHS 7 defeating Mountain Creek SHS 6.

Congratulations to all of the players and coaching staff on their success in the 2023 Struddy Cup competition. Not only did the boys claim the major trophy but they also gained the right to play a qualifying game next year to compete in the Broncos Cup in 2024.





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Year 7 Runners Up – Struddy Cup

Our year 7 Rugby League Academy boys also had a very promising season. Finishing the regular season with five wins to sit 3rd on the ladder. They also finished the season with the best defensive record of any team allowing only 82 points against them in 8 games. A very impressive record considering they are the smallest team in the competition.



They recorded wins against St. Mary's Toowoomba, Beenleigh SHS, Morayfield SHS, Woodridge SHS and Redcliffe SHS. Finishing 3rd meant the boys were able to host round 1 of the finals. A game against Morayfield, where our boys played well comfortable winning and book a spot in the elimination final against Redcliffe. This was another tight game similar to when they played each other in the regular season, with our boys getting the win.



Grand Final day saw a match up against Forest Lake SHS. A team which boasts a lot more size than Alex Hills. However, the boys were up to the battle. A few nervous moments at the start of the game allowed Forrest Lake to cross the line, which meant we had to chase points. Unfortunately, it wasn't our day, going down but gaining respect from our opposition.

Our boys competed well for the entire game and in the process have gained the opportunity to play in a qualifying game early next year to compete in the Broncos Cup for 2024.

Congratulations players and coaches, we look forward to seeing you compete next year.





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Year 8 – Struddy Cup Review

Our year 8 Rugby League Academy were looking at building on from last years results. They had some great results throughout the season including a 46 – 6 wins over Beenleigh SHS and 34 – 16 win over Morayfield. However, consistency throughout the season proved difficult with a number of injuries throughout the year.

The boys finished with 4 wins claiming 6th position, two wins out from securing the semi final spot. A finals spot in 2024 is definitely the goal for this group moving forward.



Year 10 – De Vere Cup Review

The De Vere cup is a tough competition due to its cut throat format. Two pools of five teams, with the top teams from each pool advancing to the semi-finals. To make the finals you need to start the season well as you can only afford to lose one game.

Game 1 saw our boys take on Mountain Creek SHS at home. In what was a scrappy game our boys went down, however they backed it up with a good performance in round 2. A heartbreaking 10 – 8 loss to Beenleigh SHS meant they needed to record big wins against Morayfield SHS and Woodridge SHS, plus have other results go their way to reach the finals.

Unfortunately, things didn't go to plan, finishing 4th in the pool. Proud of the boys who had a tough season with injury and illness. They will be a formidable force next year when they join the year 11 boys in the open age group.



Opens – Gee Shield Review

Like the De Vere shield, The Gee Shield it is a tough competition having to finish in the top two to progress into the finals.

However, our open boys started well with an upset win against Mountain Creek SHS 20 – 14. A difficult game against Beenleigh in round 2, put the pressure on for the remaining games.

Two tight games against Woodridge and Morayfield SHS finished the season, with our opens finishing in 3rd position. A two-point loss knocking them out of finals contention!

Thank you to our year 12 students who have left a positive legacy within the Rugby League Academy. You have set a great standard for our younger athletes.



Metropolitan Finals

Alexandra Hills SHS continued their dominance in Rugby League within the Bayside interschool sports competition. Our year 7, 9, 10 and open teams all won the Bayside title.





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RUGBY LEAGUE AWARDS

October 18th saw our annual Sports Awards Afternoon take place at the Alex Hills Hotel. It was a great opportunity to share our Rugby League Academy success stories and recognise the efforts of players and coaches while thanking our sponsors.

With our Platinum Sponsor **Betta Auto Hire** being in attendance to present awards to our Rugby League Academy students.

Congratulations to all of our award winners.

The Betta Auto Hire Most Improved:

- Yr 7 – Braeh
- Yr 8 – Landen
- Yr 9 – Seth
- Yr 10 – Deklan
- Opens – Ethan



The Betta Auto Hire Best Back:

- Yr 7 – Kyden
- Yr 8 – Mak
- Yr 9 – Hayden
- Yr 10 – Mitchell
- Opens – Joshua



The Betta Auto Hire Best Forward:

- Yr 7 – Tripp
- Yr 8 – Tangaroa
- Yr 9 – Jai
- Yr 10 – Jailan
- Opens – Sam

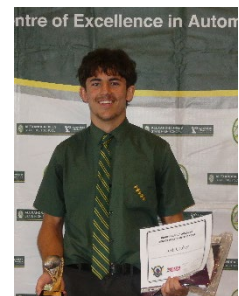


Betta Auto Hire Junior Player of the Year:

Nathan

Betta Auto Hire Senior Player of the Year:

Joshua



Junior Indigenous Player of the Year:

Scotty

Senior Indigenous Player of the Year:

Josh





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The Betta Auto Hire Team of the Year:

1	Jermaine (YR7)
2	Joshua (Opens)
3	Kyden (YR7)
4	Hayden (YR9)
5	Jack (Opens)
6	Kai (YR9)
7	Nathan (YR9)
8	Thomas (YR10)
9	Ihaia (YR7)
10	Jai (YR9)
11	Jailan (YR10)
12	Sam (Opens)
13	Kya (YR9)
14	Reihana (YR9)
15	Billy (YR10)
16	Ted (YR9)
17	Oskar (YR7)

Next year looks like another big season. We have new training gear to assist in the development of our players. We also welcome back Mr McRae, who returns to Alex Hills SHS Rugby League Academy. A wealth of knowledge joining our already strong Rugby League coaching staff Mr Neighbour, Mr Bramwell and Mr Armstrong.

Finally, 2024, will look a little different with the new LORIs logo.



Message from the Rugby League Coordinator

On behalf of the Rugby League coaching staff, we would like to thank sponsors, parents/carers and the players for their support throughout the year. It was a busy season with a number of regular season fixtures, gala days and trial games across all age groups.

We look forward to improving on our great 2023 results, where we claimed a premiership (yr 9), a runners up (yr 7) and multiple district championships (yr 7, 9, 10, opens).

Sponsorship Opportunities

We are looking for the support of local businesses to help build our program through financial or product-based sponsorship. 2024 is already shaping up to be a big year, with our junior teams playing for qualification into the Broncos Cup. If you know of someone or a company who may be interested, we would love to hear from you! Please contact Rugby League Academy Coordinator, Nathan Powell, by email at npowe50@eq.edu.au for a 'Sponsorship Information Pack'.

